

IN THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-9. Canceled.

10. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a phosphate glass, which comprises the step of charging a glass raw material into a molten glass in a heated vessel to melt the glass raw material, wherein an oxygen gas is bubbled in the molten glass and a the glass raw material for the phosphate glass is charged into a position of the bubbling.

11. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 10, wherein a metaphosphate compound is used as a part of the glass raw material and a phosphate glass is melted.

12. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 10, wherein a fluorine compound is further used as a part of the glass raw material, and a fluorophosphate glass is melted.

13. (Original) The process of claim 10, wherein a glass raw material charging rate and/or a molten glass withdrawal rate are controlled so that the depth of the molten glass in a position where the glass raw material is charged is adjusted to be 1.5 to 3 times as large as a distance between a glass raw material charging port and a liquid surface of the molten glass.

14.-18. Canceled.

19. (New) The process of claim 10, wherein the vessel is made of platinum.